THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The Union Planning Secretary, in his personal capacity, had enumerated a 10-point strategy to boost tourism at the Annual Convention of Travel Agents Association of India at Goa in September 1991. The suggestions made such as massive promotion campaign for inviting tourists, massive construction programme for hotels—both luxury and economy, a tourism related comprehensive area development programme, upgradation of tourist coaches and taxies, etc. are part of on-going Government strategy for boosting tourism.

Special passes for representative of M.Ps. for airport entrance

2494. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to issue an order so that no frisking is required for MPs and Ex-MPs at the airports; and

(b) if so, whether Government also plan to issue special passes for atleast one representative of MPs at different airports in the country to enable them to enter the airport to receive and send off MPs during their tours?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Helicopter service between Madras and Tirupati

2495. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce helicopter services between Madras and Tirupati; and

(b) if so, by when these services are likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Irregular air services for Tirupati

2496. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that serveral complaints of irregularities have been received regarding the operation of Vayudoot Services to Tirupati, a pilgrim centre;

(b) if so, whether these have been looked into; and

(c) whether it is proposed to link Tirupati with Indian Airlines Services?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Complaints have been received on irregular flights of Vayudoot to Tirupati.

(b) Yes, Sir. Within the constraint of resources, remedial action has been taken.

(c) No, Sir.

Appointment of booking agents by Indian Airlines

2497. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of authorised booking agents of Indian Airlines functioning under its Gauhati, Jorhat, Dimapur and Dibrugarh stations along with the respective dates when they were so appointed ;

(b) the details of new appointments of booking agents by Indian Airlines under these stations, stationwise during the last five years, year-wise details;

(c) the amount of direct sales generated by these four stations during the last five years, stationwise upto November, 1991;

(d) the amount of sales generated by booking agents under the said stations, and the amount of sales commission paid to these booking agents, during the last five years upto November, 1991; and

(e) whether any of the said agents has applied to Indian Airlines for provision of Computerised Reservation Terminal (CRT) facility at his/their office, if so, the names of such agents and by when they will be provided with the CRT facility ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Selection of newspaper, periodicals by Indian Airlines for inflight reading

2498. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of Indian Airlines in selecting various newspapers, periodicals, etc. for inflight reading ;

(b) the names of various newspapers periodicals patronised by Indian Airlines at present for inflight reading, the respective places of their publications and the quantum of each such paper/periodical at present purchased for the purpose ;

(c) whether Indian Airlines also patronises any regional newspaper/periodical at present for the said purpose; if so, the names, respective places of publication and quantum of each such paper/periodical lifted ;

(d) whether some applications from regional publishers of newspapers/periodicals for inclusion of their regional papers, etc. for inflight reading are pending at present; if so, the names of such newspapers/periodicals; and

(e) by when Indian Airlines propose to decide on these applications ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Newspapers with a minimum circulation of 30,000 and business newspapers and periodicals with a minumum circulation of 20,000 are considered for this purpose.

(b) and (c) The names of various newspapers and periodicals presently purchased by Indian Airlines and the volume of purchase of such publications are shown in Annexures [*See* Appendix CLXI, Annexure Nos. 61 and 62] Indian Airlines buys newspapers/periodicals published in the base stations of Indian Airlines and these are placed on the flights originating from such station.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Development of Airports in North Eastern Region

2499. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISAM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of amounts spent by National Airports Authority on the strengthening/development of Guwahati, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Imphal and Agartala airports and the improvement of facilities in these airports, airport-wise during last five years, year-wise break-up ;

(b) whether facilities available at Dibrugarh airport at present are almost same as they were a decade or two back;

(c) if so, the reasons for not developing the same in accordance with the continuous increase in Air traffic to/from this airport over the years and if not the specific improvements made in the facilities available at Dibrugarh during the last five years, year-wise details; and

(d) whether Government have any specific plans to strengthen/develop Dibrugarh airport and re-model the existing outdated terminal building there, if so, the specific steps taken in this regard so far and the amounts sanctioned for the purpose in the current year and the coming three years; year-wise break-up and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) As per statement attached. (*See* below)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Under-mentioned improvements have been made at Dibrugarh ;

(i) Instrument Landing system has been installed during the year 1988.

(ii) X-ray Baggage Machine has been installed in 1986-87.

(iii) Arrival hall and car park have been constructed in 1988—90.

(iv) SSB channel has been installed during current year.

(v) New Taperecorder installed in February, 1988.

(vi) VOR, ILS with glidepath DME commissioned in November, 1989.

(vii) New NDB commissioned in Dec-1990.

(d) Yes, Sir. There is a plan to install a conveyer belt in the newly constructed arrival hall. An estimatefor an amount of Rs. 79.77lakhs has alsobeen prepared for installation of night landing facilities at Dibrugarh. The work is likely to start during the current financial year. There is also a plan to recarpet the runway and associated ravements as a cost of Rs. 2 crores and expansion and modifica-